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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Weak link in case tying academia to the CIA

In his article "The CIA's Charles River link," Jeff McConnell purports to show a connection between the CIA and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. The evidence is that CIA director Casey once spoke at a conference on terrorism here; that two professors served on non-intelligence-related advisory panels during the 1980 presidential campaign, and that one faculty member went on to occupy a sub-Cabinet position in the Reagan administration at the United States Information Agency.

As the last-named individual, may I ask by what laws of logic or inference one is entitled to conclude said CIA connection - or has the Globe decided that guilt by association is sufficient in its columns?

To add to the irony, the "guilt" in my case is that of association, first with my colleagues, though I did not attend, indeed was not invited to, their conference on terrorism; and second, and more salient, with the US government.

The point seems to be that the US government is masterminded by the CIA, and that service in that government, in whatever capacity, however remote from the CIA, is therefore sufficient under the new logic to establish the point.

It is now 1985, not "1984," and surely the Globe can do better than Newspeak.

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Naive views on Castro, terrorism and spying

After reading Ms. Constable's, Mr. Oliphant's and Mr. McConnell's Oct. 13 articles, it is hard for me to discern whose side the paper is on.

Pamela Constable devotes 99 percent of her article espousing Cuba's side of the current icing up of our relationship with Castro, and barely two sentences to America's view. Is she so naive to think that we can ever make peace with a lying cheat like Fidel Castro?

Thomas Oliphant would rather we stand by hopeless and helpless as the Arab anti-Christ's slaughter one after another of our citizens.

Jeff McConnell sums up his views on "The CIA's Charles River Link" (a lightweight portrayal of something as important as our

nation's desire to seek the best talent available to assist in national defense) as follows: "At stake could be the reputations of their universities and the relationships of confidence upon which academic freedom itself rests."

For whom would their "reputations" be at stake? Pie in the sky liberals? I know that the majority of Americans would feel quite positive about "relationships of confidence" - if that means our educational institutions' attempts to help the CIA.

Evidently, the Globe is not doing much to eliminate its left-wing bias and continues to sound like a throwback to the '60s and '70s, which is all wet in the '80s.

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